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Rockford College, W. J. Risley, James Millikin University. (4) Address: How Mathematicians Work, Henry Blumberg, University of Illinois. (5) Business Meeting.

President Slaughter sketched the history of mathematics teacher organizations in the United States leading up to the need and opportunities for service of this new Illinois Section. He made an appeal for the hearty coöperation of all college teachers of mathematics in Illinois.

Professor Comstock gave in detail the mathematics preparation of freshmen in Bradley Polytechnic Institute and some other Illinois colleges. He recommended better provision for students entering college with only one unit credit in high-school algebra, a more uniform standard for one unit in algebra, more attention to solid geometry in colleges, and less emphasis upon complicated symbolic manipulations. The general discussion of admission credits was lively and full of interest; all seemed to feel that algebra preparation was very unsatisfactory and numerous pleas for less formal work and more emphasis of general principles and methods were made.

By request, Dr. Lytle read his Ann Arbor address on the training of mathematics teachers; this address appears in full in the present number of the MONTHLY. The discussion put emphasis on the point of giving teachers more explicit training in the use of libraries, and on more independent preparation and forceful presentation of reports on special topics; Miss Miller offered a definite scheme for carrying out and grading such work.

Professor Blumberg described numerous methods of work, both humorous and serious, used by certain well-known mathematicians and concluded with a few generalizations on effective methods of work in the field of mathematics.

The old officers were reelected for one more year; Chairman, J. A. FOBERG, Crane Junior College, Secretary-Treasurer, E. B. LYTLE, University of Illinois, members of Executive Committee, C. E. COMSTOCK, Bradley Polytechnic Institute, G. T. SELLEW, Knox College, L. S. SHIVELY, Mount Morris College. The question of the place and time of the next meeting was discussed and finally referred to the Executive Committee with power.

At the close of the program a group took luncheon together at the Illinois Union building.

ERNEST B. LYTLE, *Secretary-Treasurer*.

1820

First meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society, London, January 12; V. A. Puiseux, French geometer and analyst, born April 16; John Casey, Irish mathematician, born May 12; J. P. E. de Fauque de Jonquières, French mathematician and vice-admiral, born July 3; W. J. Rankine, Scotch engineer, born July 5; J. C. Houzeau de la Haye, Belgian bibliographer of astronomy, born October 7.